

Samuel Ankrim Shop (Brick Shop)  
South side of Chrome Road (LR 15007),  
.5 mile west of Barren Road (LR 15010)  
Mount Rocky (Elk Township)  
Chester County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-1194

HABS  
PA,  
15-MTROC,  
1-

PHOTOGRAPH

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SAMUEL ANKRIM SHOP  
(BRICK SHOP)

HABS No. PA-1194  
PA,  
15-MTROC,  
1-

Location: On County Road #15007 about 1/2 mile west of County Road #15010, Elk Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania (Reference - Map of Chester County [by County Commissioners/ 1956]).

Present Owner: Warren D. Johnson, Oxford R. D., Pennsylvania.

Brief Statement of Significance: This small building, attractive and erected about 1790, has been used through the years as the shop of a spinning-wheel maker, a turner, a shoemaker, and others.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners:

1. Warrant dated 1737 to John Miller.
2. John Miller 1745 to Robert Harvey.
3. Robert Harvey by will dated 1781 to son John Harvey.
4. John Harvey 1793 to Samuel Ankrim.
5. Samuel Ankrim was taxed for the land thru 1839 when it apparently passed to an Elizabeth Ankrim.
6. Exec. of Elizabeth Ankrim 1840 to William Wright.
7. William Wright by will dated 1868 to Thomas Wright.
8. Thomas Wright by will dated 1902 to George Franklin Wright.
9. George Franklin Wright 1938 to H. F. Transue.
10. H. F. Transue 1951 to Seth L. Burt.
11. Seth L. Burt 1951 to Warren D. Johnson.

Samuel Ankrim above was taxed at various times as a turner, spinning wheel maker etc. When he bought the property in 1793 the deed called him a spinning wheel maker and read: "All that Messuage piece & parcel of land which is already in possession of the said Samuel & his Mother Margaret, by & with the consent & approbation of Robert Harvey in his lifetime (Father of the said John Harvey) Situate lying & being in East Nottingham..." - about 61 acres. Elk township was later formed from a part of East Nottingham. An 1860 map calls it a shoe shop - and it is known locally as the old shoemaker's shop. At least one member of the Wright family - Wilson Wright, son of the above William Wright, - was a master shoemaker in the 1860 census for the township.

2. Date of erection: Late 18th century.
3. Architect, builder, suppliers etc.: Unknown.
4. Original plans, construction etc.: Unknown; but it must have been almost exactly as it is now.

5. Notes on alterations and additions: Practically no changes.
6. Important old views and references:  
Views - None known.  
References - Deeds in Recorder of Deeds Office, Court House, West Chester, Pa. Clipping and Manuscript files in Chester County Historical Society under heading: Elk Township.Lands.
- B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: None; just an attractive brick shop of ca. the 1790's.
- C. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated: None known.

Prepared by Bart Anderson - May 1959  
Curator, Chester County Historical Society

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: There appear to have been no changes made in the shop.
2. Condition of Fabric: Good.

### B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: One story and loft; 12' by 14'.
2. Foundations: Stone.
3. Wall construction: Brick.
4. Chimneys: Brick chimney with stove flue in east gable.
5. Openings
  - a. Doorways and doors: One door on the south side.
  - b. Windows and shutters: Windows to south and west; there are no shutters.
6. Roof
  - a. Shape, covering: Low pitch gable roof; wood shingles.
  - b. Cornice, eaves: Original.
  - c. Dormers: None.

C. Technical Description of Interiors

1. Floor Plans: Single room.
2. Stairways: None; there was a ladder to loft.
3. Flooring: Wood, original.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster.
5. Doorways and doors: Original.
6. Trim: Original.
7. Hardware: Hinges original; lock replaced.
8. Lighting: None.
9. Heating: Shop had had a stove.

D. Site

1. General setting and orientation: Shop faces south; it is on the south side of the road and the door is away from the road.
2. Enclosures: None.
3. Outbuildings: There is an early log house a few yards to the South West.
4. Walks, driveways etc.: None.
5. Landscaping, gardens etc.: None.

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